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SENATE BILL NO. 2938

Originated in Senate *Fleming* Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 2938

AN ACT TO REENACT SECTIONS 19-5-303, 19-5-313, 19-5-319, 19-5-331 THROUGH 19-5-341, 19-5-359 AND 19-5-361, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH RELATE TO EMERGENCY 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION OF SERVICE CHARGES; TO AMEND REENACTED SECTION 19-5-303, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS AS THEY RELATE TO THE EMERGENCY 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAW; TO AMEND REENACTED SECTION 19-5-313, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE COLLECTION OF A FEE FOR VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL (VOIP); TO AMEND REENACTED SECTION 19-5-333, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMERCIAL MOBILE RADIO SERVICE (CMRS) BOARD; TO AMEND REENACTED SECTION 19-5-361, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCLUDE VOIP SERVICE SUPPLIERS IN THE PROVISION THAT PROVIDES LIABILITY LIMITATIONS TO OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICE SUPPLIERS; TO AMEND SECTION 19-5-371, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE REPEALER ON THE REENACTED SECTIONS; TO CREATE A NEW SECTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION AND REMITTANCE OF PREPAID WIRELESS E911 CHARGES, AND TO PROVIDE LIABILITY PROTECTIONS TO PROVIDERS AND SELLERS OF PREPAID WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES; TO CREATE A NEW SECTION TO REQUIRE CERTAIN EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATORS TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. Section 19-5-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted and amended as follows:

19-5-303. For purposes of Sections 19-5-301 through 19-5-317, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(a) "Exchange access facilities" shall mean all lines provided by the service supplier for the provision of local exchange service as defined in existing general subscriber services tariffs.

(b) "Tariff rate" shall mean the rate or rates billed by a service supplier as stated in the service supplier's tariffs and approved by the Public Service Commission, which represent the service supplier's recurring charges for exchange access

facilities, exclusive of all taxes, fees, licenses or similar charges whatsoever.

(c) "District" shall mean any communications district created pursuant to Section 19-5-301 et seq., or by local and private act of the State of Mississippi.

(d) "Service supplier" shall mean any person providing exchange telephone service to any service user throughout the county.

(e) "Service user" shall mean any person, not otherwise exempt from taxation, who is provided exchange telephone service in the county or state.

(f) "E911" shall mean Enhanced Universal Emergency Number Service or Enhanced 911 Service, which is a telephone exchange communications service whereby a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) designated by the county or local communications district may receive telephone calls dialed to the abbreviated telephone number 911. E911 Service includes lines and equipment necessary for the answering, transferring and dispatching of public emergency telephone calls originated by persons within the serving area who dial 911. Enhanced 911 Service includes the displaying of the name, address and other pertinent caller information as may be supplied by the service supplier.

(g) "Basic 911" shall mean a telephone service terminated in designated Public Safety Answering Points accessible by the public through telephone calls dialed to the abbreviated telephone number 911. Basic 911 is a voice service and does not display address or telephone number information.

(h) "Shared tenant services (STS)" shall mean any telephone service operation supplied by a party other than a regulated local exchange telephone service supplier for which a charge is levied. Such services shall include, but not be limited to, apartment building systems, hospital systems, office building systems and other systems where dial tone is derived from

connection of tariffed telephone trunks or lines connected to a private branch exchange telephone system.

(i) "Private branch exchange (PBX)" shall mean any telephone service operation supplied by a party other than a regulated local exchange telephone service supplier for which a charge is not levied. Such services are those where tariffed telephone trunks or lines are terminated into a central switch which is used to supply dial tone to telephones operating within that system.

(j) "Off-premise extension" shall mean any telephone connected to a private branch exchange or a shared tenant service which is in a different building or location from the main switching equipment and, therefore, has a different physical address.

(k) "Centrex" or "ESSX" shall mean any variety of services offered in connection with any tariffed telephone service in which switching services and other dialing features are provided by the regulated local exchange telephone service supplier.

(l) "Commercial mobile radio service" or "CMRS" shall mean commercial mobile radio service under Sections 3(27) and 332(d) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 USCS Section 151 et seq., and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Public Law 103-66. The term includes the term "wireless" and service provided by any wireless real-time, two-way voice communication device, including radio-telephone communications used in cellular telephone service, personal communication service, or the functional or competitive equivalent of a radio-telephone communications line used in cellular telephone service, a personal communication service, or a network radio access line. The term does not include service whose customers do not have ready access to 911 * * *, to a communication channel suitable only for data transmission, to a wireless roaming service

or other nonlocal radio access line service, or to a private telecommunications system.

(m) "Telecommunicator" shall mean any person engaged in or employed as a telecommunications operator by any public safety, fire or emergency medical agency whose primary responsibility is the receipt or processing of calls for emergency services provided by public safety, fire or emergency medical agencies or the dispatching of emergency services provided by public safety, fire or emergency medical agencies and who receives or disseminates information relative to emergency assistance by telephone or radio.

(n) "Public safety answering point (PSAP)" shall mean any designated point of contact between the public and the emergency services such as a 911 answering point or, in the absence of 911 emergency telephone service, any other designated point of contact where emergency telephone calls are routinely answered and dispatched or transferred to another agency.

(o) "Local exchange telephone service" shall mean all lines provided by a service supplier as defined in existing general subscriber tariffs.

(p) "911 emergency communication" means any FCC mandated 911 communication, message, signal or transmission made to a public safety answering point.

(q) "Voice over Internet Protocol service" means any technology that permits a voice conversation using a voice connection to a computer, whether through a microphone, a telephone or other device, which sends a digital signal over the Internet through a broadband connection to be converted back to the human voice at a distant terminal and that delivers or is required by law to deliver a call to a public safety answering point. Voice over Internet Protocol service shall also include interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol service, which is service that enables real-time, two-way voice communications,

requires a broadband connection from the user's location, requires Internet protocol compatible customer premises equipment, and allows users to receive calls that originate on the public service telephone network and to terminate calls to the public switched telephone network.

(r) "Voice over Internet Protocol service supplier"
means a person or entity who provides Voice over Internet Protocol service to subscribers for a fee.

SECTION 2. Section 19-5-313, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted and amended as follows:

19-5-313. (1) The board of supervisors may levy an emergency telephone service charge in an amount not to exceed One Dollar (\$1.00) per residential telephone subscriber line per month, One Dollar (\$1.00) per Voice over Internet Protocol subscriber account per month, and Two Dollars (\$2.00) per commercial telephone subscriber line per month for exchange telephone service. Any emergency telephone service charge shall have uniform application and shall be imposed throughout the entirety of the district to the greatest extent possible in conformity with availability of such service in any area of the district. Those districts which exist on the date of enactment of Chapter 539, Laws of 1993, shall convert to the following structure for service charge levy: If the current charge is five percent (5%) of the basic tariff service rate, the new collection shall be Eighty Cents (\$.80) per month per residential subscriber line and One Dollar and Sixty Cents (\$1.60) per month per commercial subscriber line. The collections may be adjusted as outlined in Chapter 539, Laws of 1993, and within the limits set forth herein.

(2) If the proceeds generated by the emergency telephone service charge exceed the amount of monies necessary to fund the service, the board of supervisors may authorize such excess funds to be expended by the county and the municipalities in the

counties to perform the duties and pay the costs relating to identifying roads, highways and streets, as provided by Section 65-7-143. The board of supervisors shall determine how the funds are to be distributed in the county and among municipalities in the county for paying the costs relating to identifying roads, highways and streets. The board of supervisors may temporarily reduce the service charge rate or temporarily suspend the service charge if the proceeds generated exceed the amount that is necessary to fund the service and/or to pay costs relating to identifying roads, highways and streets. Such excess funds may also be used in the development of county or district communications and paging systems when used primarily for the alerting and dispatching of public safety entities and for other administrative costs such as management personnel, maintenance personnel and related building and operational requirements. Such excess funds may be placed in a depreciation fund for emergency and obsolescence replacement of equipment necessary for the operation of the overall 911 emergency telephone and alerting systems.

(3) No such service charge shall be imposed upon more than twenty-five (25) exchange access facilities or Voice over Internet Protocol lines per person per location. Trunks or service lines used to supply service to CMRS providers shall not have a service charge levied against them. Every billed service user shall be liable for any service charge imposed under this section until it has been paid to the service supplier. The duty of the service supplier to collect any such service charge shall commence upon the date of its implementation, which shall be specified in the resolution for the installation of such service. Any such emergency telephone service charge shall be added to and may be stated separately in the billing by the service supplier to the service user.

(4) The service supplier shall have no obligation to take any legal action to enforce the collection of any emergency telephone service charge. However, the service supplier shall annually provide the board of supervisors and board of commissioners with a list of the amount uncollected, together with the names and addresses of those service users who carry a balance that can be determined by the service supplier to be nonpayment of such service charge. The service charge shall be collected at the same time as the tariff rate or, for nontariff services, at the time of payment, in accordance with the regular billing practice of the service supplier. Good faith compliance by the service supplier with this provision shall constitute a complete defense to any legal action or claim which may result from the service supplier's determination of nonpayment and/or the identification of service users in connection therewith.

(5) The amounts collected by the service supplier attributable to any emergency telephone service charge shall be due the county treasury monthly. The amount of service charge collected each month by the service supplier shall be remitted to the county no later than sixty (60) days after the close of the month. A return, in such form as the board of supervisors and the service supplier agree upon, shall be filed with the county, together with a remittance of the amount of service charge collected payable to the county. The service supplier shall maintain records of the amount of service charge collected for a period of at least two (2) years from date of collection. The board of supervisors and board of commissioners shall receive an annual audit of the service supplier's books and records with respect to the collection and remittance of the service charge. From the gross receipts to be remitted to the county, the service supplier shall be entitled to retain as an administrative fee, an amount equal to one percent (1%) thereof. From and after March 10, 1987, the service charge is a county fee and is not subject to

any sales, use, franchise, income, excise or any other tax, fee or assessment and shall not be considered revenue of the service supplier for any purpose.

(6) In order to provide additional funding for the district, the board of commissioners may receive federal, state, county or municipal funds, as well as funds from private sources, and may expend such funds for the purposes of Section 19-5-301 et seq.

SECTION 3. Section 19-5-319, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

19-5-319. (1) Automatic number identification (ANI), automatic location identification (ALI) and geographic automatic location identification (GeoALI) information that consist of the name, address and telephone number of telephone or wireless subscribers shall be confidential, and the dissemination of the information contained in the 911 automatic number and location database is prohibited except for the following purpose: the information will be provided to the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) on a call-by-call basis only for the purpose of handling emergency calls or for training, and any permanent record of the information shall be secured by the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and disposed of in a manner which will retain that security, except upon court order or subpoena from a court of competent jurisdiction or as otherwise provided by law.

(2) All emergency telephone calls and telephone call transmissions received pursuant to Section 19-5-301 et seq., and all recordings of the emergency telephone calls, shall remain confidential and shall be used only for the purposes as may be needed for law enforcement, fire, medical rescue or other emergency services. These recordings shall not be released to any other parties without court order or subpoena from a court of competent jurisdiction.

(3) PSAP and emergency response entities shall maintain and, upon request, release a record of the date of call, time of call,

the time the emergency response entity was notified, and the identity of the emergency response entity. The emergency response entity shall maintain and, upon request, release a record of the date and time the call was received by the emergency response entity and the time the emergency response entity arrived on the scene. Requests for release of records must be made in writing and must specify the information desired. Requestors shall pay the cost of providing the information requested in accordance with the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983, Section 25-61-1 et seq. The identity of any caller or person or persons who are the subject of any call, or the address, phone number or other identifying information about any such person, shall not be released except as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

SECTION 4. Section 19-5-331, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

19-5-331. As used in Sections 19-5-331 through 19-5-341, the following words and phrases have the meanings ascribed in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(a) The terms "board" and "CMRS Board" mean the Commercial Mobile Radio Service Emergency Telephone Services Board.

(b) The term "automatic number identification" or "ANI" means an Enhanced 911 Service capability that enables the automatic display of the ten-digit wireless telephone number used to place a 911 call and includes "pseudo-automatic number identification" or "pseudo-ANI," which means an Enhanced 911 Service capability that enables the automatic display of the number of the cell site and an identification of the CMRS provider.

(c) The term "commercial mobile radio service" or "CMRS" means commercial mobile radio service under Sections 3(27) and 332(d) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 USCS Section 151 et seq., and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of

1993, Public Law 103-66. The term includes the term "wireless" and service provided by any wireless real time two-way voice communication device, including radio-telephone communications used in cellular telephone service, personal communication service, or the functional or competitive equivalent of a radio-telephone communications line used in cellular telephone service, a personal communication service, specialized mobile radio service, or a network radio access line. The term does not include service whose customers do not have access to 911 or to a 911-like service, to a communication channel suitable only for data transmission, to a wireless roaming service or other nonlocal radio access line service, or to a private telecommunications system.

(d) The term "commercial mobile radio service provider" or "CMRS provider" means a person or entity who provides commercial mobile radio service or CMRS service.

(e) The term "CMRS connection" means each mobile handset telephone number assigned to a CMRS customer with a place of primary use in the State of Mississippi.

(f) The term "CMRS Fund" means the Commercial Mobile Radio Service Fund required to be established and maintained pursuant to Section 19-5-333.

(g) The term "CMRS service charge" means the CMRS emergency telephone service charge levied and maintained pursuant to Section 19-5-333 and collected pursuant to Section 19-5-335.

(h) The term "distribution formula" means the formula specified in Section 19-5-333(c) by which monies generated from the CMRS service charge are distributed on a percentage basis to emergency communications districts and to the CMRS Fund.

(i) The term "ECD" means an emergency communications district created pursuant to Section 19-5-301 et seq., or by local and private act of the State of Mississippi.

(j) The term "Enhanced 911," "E911," "Enhanced E911 system" or "E911 system" means an emergency telephone system that provides the caller with emergency 911 system service, that directs 911 calls to appropriate public safety answering points by selective routing based on the geographical location from which the call originated, and that provides the capability for automatic number identification and other features that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) may require in the future.

(k) The term "exchange access facility" means an "exchange access facility" as defined by Section 19-5-303.

(l) The term "FCC Order" means Federal Communications Commission orders, rules and regulations issued with respect to implementation of Basic 911 or Enhanced 911 and other emergency communication services.

(m) The term "place of primary use" means the street address representative of where the customer's use of mobile telecommunications services primarily occurs, which must be either the residential street address or the primary business street address of the customer.

(n) The term "service supplier" means a "service supplier" as defined by Section 19-5-303.

(o) The term "technical proprietary information" means technology descriptions, technical information or trade secrets and the actual or developmental costs thereof which are developed, produced or received internally by a CMRS provider or by a CMRS provider's employees, directors, officers or agents.

SECTION 5. Section 19-5-333, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted and amended as follows:

19-5-333. (1) There is created a Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) Board, consisting of eight (8) members to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The members of the board shall be appointed as follows:

(a) One (1) member from the Northern Public Service Commission District selected from two (2) nominees submitted to the Governor by the Mississippi 911 Coordinators Association;

(b) One (1) member from the Central Public Service Commission District selected from two (2) nominees submitted to the Governor by the Mississippi Chapter of the Association of Public Safety Communication Officers;

(c) One (1) member from the Southern Public Service Commission District selected from two (2) nominees submitted to the Governor by the National Emergency Numbering Association;

(d) Two (2) members who are wireless provider representatives;

(e) One (1) member who is a consumer representing the state at large with no affiliation to the three (3) trade associations or the wireless providers; * * *

(f) One (1) member who is a member of the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Association selected from two (2) nominees submitted to the Governor by the association; and

(g) One (1) member who is a member of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors selected from two (2) nominees submitted to the Governor by the association.

The initial terms of the board members, as appointed after July 1, 2002, shall be staggered as follows: the members appointed under paragraph (d) shall serve a term of two (2) years; the member appointed under paragraph (e) shall serve a term of one (1) year. After the expiration of the initial terms, the term for all members shall be four (4) years.

(2) The board shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To collect and distribute a CMRS emergency telephone service charge on each CMRS customer whose place of primary use is within the state. The rate of such CMRS service charge shall be One Dollar (\$1.00) per month per CMRS connection. In the case of prepaid wireless service, the rate and methodology

for collecting and remitting the 911 charge is governed by Section 13 of this act. The CMRS service charge shall have uniform application and shall be imposed throughout the state. The board is authorized to receive all revenues derived from the CMRS service charge levied on CMRS connections in the state and collected pursuant to Section 19-5-335.

(b) To establish and maintain the CMRS Fund as an insured, interest-bearing account into which the board shall deposit all revenues derived from the CMRS service charge levied on CMRS connections in the state and collected pursuant to Section 19-5-335. The revenues which are deposited into the CMRS Fund shall not be monies or property of the state and shall not be subject to appropriation by the Legislature. Interest derived from the CMRS Fund shall be divided equally to pay reasonable costs incurred by providers in compliance with the requirements of Sections 19-5-331 through 19-5-341 and to compensate those persons, parties or firms employed by the CMRS Board as contemplated in paragraph (d) of this subsection. The interest income is not subject to the two percent (2%) cap on administrative spending established in Section 19-5-335(3).

(c) To establish a distribution formula by which the board will make disbursements of the CMRS service charge in the following amounts and in the following manner:

(i) Out of the funds collected by the board, thirty percent (30%) shall be deposited into the CMRS Fund, and shall be used to defray the administrative expenses of the board in accordance with Section 19-5-335(3) and to pay the actual costs incurred by such CMRS providers in complying with the wireless E911 service requirements established by the FCC Order and any rules and regulations which are or may be adopted by the FCC pursuant to the FCC Order, including, but not limited to, costs and expenses incurred for designing, upgrading, purchasing, leasing, programming, installing, testing or maintaining all

necessary data, hardware and software required in order to provide such service as well as the incremental costs of operating such service. Sworn invoices must be presented to the board in connection with any request for payment and approved by a majority vote of the board prior to any such disbursement, which approval shall not be withheld or delayed unreasonably. In no event shall any invoice for payment be approved for the payment of costs that are not related to compliance with the wireless E911 service requirements established by the FCC Order and any rules and regulations which are or may be adopted by the FCC pursuant to the FCC Order, and any rules and regulations which may be adopted by the FCC with respect to implementation of wireless E911 services.

(ii) The remainder of all funds collected by the board, which shall not be less than seventy percent (70%) of the total funds collected by the board, shall be distributed by the board monthly based on the number of CMRS connections in each ECD for use in providing wireless E911 service, including capital improvements, and in their normal operations. For purposes of distributing the funds to each ECD, every CMRS provider shall identify to the CMRS Board the ECD to which funds should be remitted based on zip code plus four (4) designation, as required by the federal Uniform Sourcing Act.

An ECD board that has within its jurisdiction zip code designations that do not adhere to county lines shall assist CMRS providers in determining the appropriate county to which funds should be distributed.

(d) To contract for the services of accountants, attorneys, consultants, engineers and any other persons, firms or parties the board deems necessary to effectuate the purposes of Sections 19-5-331 through 19-5-341.

(e) To obtain from an independent, third-party auditor retained by the board annual reports to the board no later than sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year, which shall

provide an accounting for all CMRS service charges deposited into the CMRS Fund during the preceding fiscal year and all disbursements to ECDs during the preceding fiscal year. The board shall provide a copy of the annual reports to the Chairmen of the Public Utilities Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(f) To retain an independent, third-party accountant who shall audit CMRS providers at the discretion of the CMRS Board to verify the accuracy of each CMRS providers' service charge collection. The information obtained by the audits shall be used solely for the purpose of verifying that CMRS providers accurately are collecting and remitting the CMRS service charge and may be used for any legal action initiated by the board against CMRS providers.

(g) To levy interest charges at the legal rate of interest established in Section 75-17-1 on any amount due and outstanding from any CMRS provider who fails to remit service charges in accordance with Section 19-5-335(1).

(h) To promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to effect the provisions of Sections 19-5-331 through 19-5-341.

(i) To make the determinations and disbursements as provided by Section 19-5-333(2)(c).

(j) To maintain a registration database of all CMRS providers and to impose an administrative fine on any provider that fails to comply with the registration requirements in Section 19-5-335.

(3) The CMRS service charge provided in subsection (2)(a) of this section and the service charge provided in Section 19-5-357 to fund the training of public safety telecommunicators shall be the only charges assessed to CMRS customers relating to emergency telephone services.

(4) The board shall serve without compensation; however, members of the board shall be entitled to be reimbursed for actual expenses and travel costs associated with their service in an amount not to exceed the reimbursement authorized for state officers and employees in Section 25-3-41, Mississippi Code of 1972.

(5) It is the Legislature's intent to ensure that the State of Mississippi shall be Phase I compliant by July 1, 2005. For purposes of this subsection, Phase I compliant means the mandate by the FCC that requires any carrier when responding to a PSAP to define and deliver data related to the cell site location and the caller's call-back number.

SECTION 6. Section 19-5-335, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

19-5-335. (1) Each CMRS provider shall act as a collection agent for the CMRS Fund and shall, as part of the provider's normal monthly billing process, collect the CMRS service charges levied upon CMRS connections pursuant to Section 19-5-333(2)(a) from each CMRS connection to whom the billing provider provides CMRS service and shall, not later than thirty (30) days after the end of the calendar month in which such CMRS service charges are collected, remit to the board the net CMRS service charges so collected after deducting the fee authorized by subsection (2) of this section. Each billing provider shall list the CMRS service charge as a separate entry on each bill which includes a CMRS service charge.

(2) Each CMRS provider shall be entitled to deduct and retain from the CMRS service charges collected by such provider during each calendar month an amount not to exceed one percent (1%) of the gross aggregate amount of such CMRS service charges so collected as reimbursement for the costs incurred by such provider in collecting, handling and processing such CMRS service charges.

(3) The board shall be entitled to retain from the CMRS service charges collected during each calendar month an amount not to exceed two percent (2%) of the money allocated to the CMRS Fund as reimbursement for the costs incurred by the board in administering Sections 19-5-331 through 19-5-341 including, but not limited to, retaining and paying the independent, third-party auditor to review and disburse the cost recovery funds and to prepare the reports contemplated by Sections 19-5-331 through 19-5-341.

(4) Each CMRS provider shall register with the CMRS Board and shall provide the following information upon registration:

- (a) The company name of the provider;
- (b) The marketing name of the provider;
- (c) The publicly traded name of the provider;
- (d) The physical address of the company headquarters and of the main office located in the State of Mississippi; and
- (e) The names and addresses of the providers' board of directors/owners.

Each CMRS provider shall notify the board of any change in the information prescribed in paragraphs (a) through (e). The board may suspend the disbursement of cost recovery funds to, and may impose an administrative fine in an amount not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) on any provider which fails to comply with the provisions of this subsection.

SECTION 7. Section 19-5-337, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

19-5-337. All technical proprietary information submitted to the board or to the independent, third-party auditor as provided by Section 19-5-333(2)(d) shall be retained by the board and such auditor in confidence and shall be subject to review only by the board. Further, notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no technical proprietary information so submitted shall be subject to subpoena or otherwise released to any person other than to the

submitting CMRS provider, the board and the aforesaid independent, third-party auditor without the express permission of the administrator and the submitting CMRS provider. General information collected by the aforesaid independent, third-party auditor shall only be released or published in aggregate amounts which do not identify or allow identification of numbers of subscribers of revenues attributable to an individual CMRS provider.

SECTION 8. Section 19-5-339, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

19-5-339. In accordance with the Federal Communication Commission Order, no CMRS provider shall be required to provide wireless Enhanced 911 Service until such time as (a) the provider receives a request for such service from the administrator of a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) that is capable of receiving and utilizing the data elements associated with the service; (b) funds are available pursuant to Section 19-5-333; and (c) the local exchange carrier is able to support the wireless Enhanced 911 system.

SECTION 9. Section 19-5-341, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

19-5-341. Wireless emergency telephone service shall not be used for personal use and shall be used solely for the use of communications by the public. Any person who knowingly uses or attempts to use wireless emergency telephone service for a purpose other than obtaining public safety assistance, or who knowingly uses or attempts to use wireless emergency telephone service in an effort to avoid any CMRS charges, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment of not more than thirty (30) days in the county jail, or both such fine and imprisonment. If the value of the CMRS charge or service obtained in a manner prohibited by this section exceeds One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), the offense may be

prosecuted as a felony and punishable by a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) and imprisonment of not more than three (3) years, or both such fine and imprisonment.

SECTION 10. Section 19-5-359, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

19-5-359. (1) Any service supplier operating within the State of Mississippi shall be required to provide access to the locally designated PSAP by dialing the three (3) digits "911" from any telephone subscriber line within such service area. Where technically available, each service supplier shall, at a county's request, provide "Enhanced 911" services. Where this capability does not technically exist, "Basic 911" shall be available as a minimum.

(2) From and after December 31, 1993, any person, corporation or entity operating a "shared tenant service" type of telephone system shall be required to provide as a minimum the location and telephone number information for each and every extension or user on such "shared tenant" system to the regulated local exchange telephone service provider where the service provider can utilize such information in the delivery of "Enhanced 911" emergency telephone service. This information shall consist of data in a format that is compatible with the service supplier's requirements in order to provide such location and telephone number information automatically in the event a call to 911 is placed from such a system. It shall be the responsibility of the operator or provider of "STS" telephone services to maintain the data pertaining to each extension operating on such system.

(3) Any CMRS providers operating within the State of Mississippi shall be required to have all trunks or service lines supplying all cellular sites and personal communications network sites contain the word "cellular" in the service supplier listing for each trunk or service line to facilitate operator identification of cellular and PCN telephone calls placed to 911.

(4) Any service suppliers engaged in the offering or operating of "Centrex" or "ESSX" telephone service within the State of Mississippi shall cause the actual location of all extensions operating in this service to be displayed at the PSAP whenever a 911 call is placed from said extension. This feature shall not be required in areas where Enhanced 911 is not in operation but shall be required should such area upgrade to Enhanced 911 service.

(5) Any local exchange telephone service suppliers offering "quick-serve" or "soft" dial tone shall provide address location information to the PSAP operating in the area where the "quick-serve" or "soft" dial tone is in operation so that the PSAP may have this address information displayed should a call to 911 be placed from such location. It shall be the responsibility of the service supplier to determine in which emergency service number area the "quick-serve" or "soft" dial tone is located.

(6) Any service suppliers operating within the State of Mississippi and providing Enhanced 911 telephone service shall have a reasonable time period, not to exceed five (5) years, to comply with data and operational standards as they are set forth by the National Emergency Number Association. This time period shall apply to data format, equipment supplied for PSAP use and for the length of time required for data updates relating to service user address information, emergency service number updates and other data updates as may be required.

SECTION 11. Section 19-5-361, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted and amended as follows:

19-5-361. Any Emergency 911 * * * service supplier, Emergency 911 Voice over Internet Protocol service supplier, and Emergency 911 CMRS provider operating within the State of Mississippi, its employees, directors, officers, agents and subcontractors, shall be entitled to receive the limitations of liability as provided to the

state, or any agency or local government of the state, pursuant to Section 11-46-15, Mississippi Code of 1972.

SECTION 12. Section 19-5-371, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

19-5-371. Sections 19-5-303, 19-5-313, 19-5-319, 19-5-331, 19-5-333, 19-5-335, 19-5-337, 19-5-339, 19-5-341, 19-5-359 and 19-5-361 shall stand repealed from and after July 1, 2014.

SECTION 13. (1) **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Consumer" means a person who purchases prepaid wireless telecommunications service in a retail transaction.

(b) "Department" means the Mississippi Department of Revenue.

(c) "Prepaid wireless E911 charge" means the charge that is required to be collected by a seller from a consumer in the amount established under subsection (2).

(d) "Prepaid wireless telecommunications service" means a wireless telecommunications service that allows a caller to dial 911 to access the 911 system, which service must be paid for in advance and is sold in predetermined units or dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount.

(e) "Provider" means a person who provides prepaid wireless telecommunications service pursuant to a license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

(f) "Retail transaction" means the purchase of prepaid wireless telecommunications service from a seller for any purpose other than resale.

(g) "Seller" means a person who sells prepaid wireless telecommunications service to another person.

(h) "Wireless telecommunications service" means commercial mobile radio service as defined by Section 20.3 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended.

(2) **Collection and remittance of E911 charge.** (a) Amount of Charge. The prepaid wireless E911 charge shall be One Dollar (\$1.00) per retail transaction.

(b) Collection of charge. The prepaid wireless E911 charge shall be collected by the seller from the consumer with respect to each retail transaction occurring in this state. The amount of the prepaid wireless E911 charge shall be either separately stated on an invoice, receipt or other similar document that is provided to the consumer by the seller, or otherwise disclosed to the consumer.

(c) Application of charge. For purposes of paragraph (b) of this subsection, a retail transaction that is effected in person by a consumer at a business location of the seller shall be treated as occurring in this state if that business location is in this state, and any other retail transaction shall be treated as occurring in this state if the retail transaction is treated as occurring in this state for purposes of Section 27-65-19(1)(e)(v)3.c.

(d) Liability for charge. The prepaid wireless E911 charge is the liability of the consumer and not of the seller or of any provider, except that the seller shall be liable to remit all prepaid wireless E911 charges that the seller collects from consumers as provided in subsection (3), including all such charges that the seller is deemed to have collected where the amount of the charge has not been separately stated on an invoice, receipt, or other similar document provided to the consumer by the seller.

(e) Exclusion of E911 charge from base of other taxes and fees. The amount of the prepaid wireless E911 charge that is collected by a seller from a consumer, whether or not such amount is separately stated on an invoice, receipt or other similar document provided to the consumer by the seller, shall not be included in the base for measuring any tax, fee, surcharge or

other charge that is imposed by this state, any political subdivision of this state or any intergovernmental agency.

(f) Resetting of charge. The prepaid wireless E911 charge shall be increased or reduced, as applicable, upon any change to the state E911 charge on postpaid wireless telecommunications service under Section 19-5-333. Such increase or reduction shall be effective on the effective date of the change to the postpaid charge or, if later, the first day of the first calendar month to occur at least sixty (60) days after the enactment of the change to the postpaid charge. The department shall provide not less than thirty (30) days of advance notice of such increase or reduction on the commission's Web site.

(3) **Administration of E911 charge.** (a) Time and manner of payment. Prepaid wireless E911 charges collected by sellers shall be remitted to the department at the times and in the manner provided by Chapter 65 of Title 27 with respect to sales and use taxes. The department shall establish registration and payment procedures that substantially coincide with the registration and payment procedures that apply to Chapter 65 of Title 27.

(b) Seller administrative deduction. A seller shall be permitted to deduct and retain two percent (2%) of prepaid wireless E911 charges that are collected by the seller from consumers.

(c) Audit and appeal procedures. The audit and appeal procedures applicable to Chapter 65 of Title 27 shall apply to prepaid wireless E911 charges.

(d) Exemption documentation. The department shall establish procedures by which a seller of prepaid wireless telecommunications service may document that a sale is not a retail transaction, which procedures shall substantially coincide with the procedures for documenting sale for resale transactions for sales and use tax purposes under Chapter 65 of Title 27.

(e) Disposition of remitted charges. The department shall pay all remitted prepaid wireless E911 charges over to the Commercial Mobile Radio Service Emergency Telephone Services Board within thirty (30) days of receipt, for use by the board in accordance with the purposes permitted by Section 19-5-333, after deducting an amount, not to exceed two percent (2%) of collected charges, that shall be retained by the department to reimburse its direct costs of administering the collection and remittance of prepaid wireless E911 charges. The amount of the distribution shall be determined by dividing the population of the communications district by the state population, and then multiplying that quotient times the total revenues remitted to the department after deducting the amount authorized in this subsection.

(4) **No Liability.** (a) No liability regarding 911 service. No provider or seller of prepaid wireless telecommunications service shall be liable for damages to any person resulting from or incurred in connection with the provision of, or failure to provide, 911 or E911 service, or for identifying, or failing to identify, the telephone number, address, location or name associated with any person or device that is accessing or attempting to access 911 or E911 service.

(b) No provider of prepaid wireless service shall be liable for damages to any person or entity resulting from or incurred in connection with the provider's provision of assistance to any investigative or law enforcement officer of the United States, this or any other state, or any political subdivision of this or any other state, in connection with any investigation or other law enforcement activity by such law enforcement officer that the provider believes in good faith to be lawful.

(c) Incorporation of postpaid 911 liability protection. In addition to the protection from liability provided by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, each provider and

seller shall be entitled to the further protection from liability, if any, that is provided to providers and sellers of wireless telecommunications service that is not prepaid wireless telecommunications service pursuant to Section 19-5-361.

(5) **Exclusivity of prepaid wireless E911 charge.** The prepaid wireless E911 charge imposed by this section shall be the only E911 governmental funding obligation imposed with respect to prepaid wireless telecommunications service in this state, and no tax, fee, surcharge or other charge shall be imposed by this state, any political subdivision of this state, or any intergovernmental agency, for E911 funding purposes, upon any provider, seller or consumer with respect to the sale, purchase, use or provision of prepaid wireless telecommunications service.

(6) Notwithstanding any other method or formula of collection and/or distribution of the emergency telephone service charges as specified in this section and as such collection and/or distribution method or formula is specified in this section, a provider may collect and distribute the said charges in any other manner applicable to satisfy the intent and requirements of this section.

SECTION 14. (1) After any telecommunicator has received his or her initial minimum standard of training and has been issued the "Certification of Minimum Standards," such telecommunicator shall complete forty-eight (48) hours of continuing education courses every three (3) years. The continuing education courses, required pursuant to this subsection, must be approved by the Board of Emergency Telecommunications Standards and Training.


(2) The Board of Emergency Telecommunications Standards and Training shall reimburse each agency for the expense incurred by telecommunicators who attend approved continuing education courses as required by this section.

(3) For purposes of this section, "telecommunicator" means any person engaged in or employed as a telecommunications operator

by any public safety, fire or emergency medical agency whose primary responsibility is the receipt or processing of calls for emergency services provided by public safety, fire or emergency medical agencies or the dispatching of emergency services provided by public safety, fire or emergency medical agencies and who receives or disseminates information relative to emergency assistance by telephone or radio.

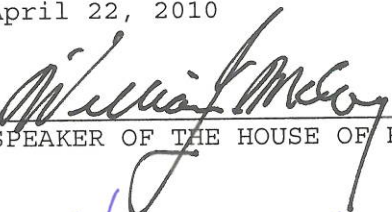
SECTION 15. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2010.

PASSED BY THE SENATE
April 22, 2010



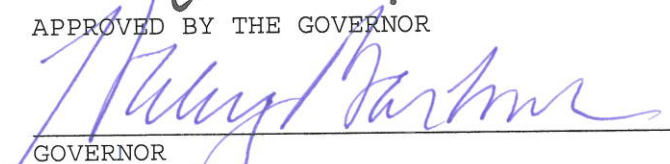
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 22, 2010



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR



GOVERNOR

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